Vol. V. Numb. 40

The EXAMINER.

From Monday April 12, to Friday April 16, 1714.

——— Si quis Deus, en ego, dicat,
Jam faciam quod vultis : eris tu, qui modo miles,
Mercator : tu conſultus modo ruſticus. Hinc vos,
Vos hinc mutatis diſcedite partibus. Eja,
Quid ſtatis ? Nolint. Atqui licet eſſe beatis. Horace.

I ALWAYS chuſe to argue with the *Whigs* upon the moſt Uncontested and Self-evident Principles: So much have I at Heart the Conviction and ſincere Reformation of that People! Let them Cavil at the *Original* of *Government*, and Perplex and Confound the firſt Principles of *Policy* in what manner they pleaſe; till they loſe and bewilder both themſelves and Followers in an endleſs and inextricable Maze of Wrangle and Controverſy: But ſtill I inſiſt, that there are primary Notions of *Good* and *Evil*, *Right* and *Wrong*, which ſtand in the way of their *Cauſe*; and which they never will be able to get over, by the moſt Elaborate Syſtem of Abſurdies, by Dint of Clamour and Aſſurance, by a Torrent of Words, and the undaunted Forces of Intrepid Obſtinacy and Contradiction.

I ſhall ſay nothing to them at preſent of a *Divine Right* or *Inſtitution*; nor enter into any Debate, whether an *Engliſh Monarch* holds of *God*, or the *Subject*? Whether he be *Accountable* or *Independent*? Whether *Major Singulis & Minor Univerſis*? Whether *Sub Deo & Lege*? And whether *One* of the *Three Eſtates*, and only *Co-ordinate* with them? As for the *M——y* for the Time being, I will not preſume to enquire, Whether they are comprehended under thoſe Words —— *All in Authority under him* —— *Rulers bearing the Sword* ——— *Principalities and Powers* ——— *Judges of the People* ——? Whether they are the *Deputies* and *Vicegerents* of the *Prerogative*? *Officers* of the *Crown*? *Men in Truſt*? *Commiſſion'd* by the *Sovereign*? *Appointed* to put the Laws in *Execution*, and to *Adminiſter* Juſtice? Or, Whether they have any other Mark of Diſtinction put upon them, that denotes the leaſt Shadow of *Superiority* and *Pre-eminence*? It is enough for my preſent Purpoſe, in diſputing againſt the *Whigs*, that the *M——y* are *Men* and *Fellow-Subjects*, *Freeborn Britons*, and at leaſt upon a Level with us in the Poſſeſſion and Enjoyment of all thoſe Rights and Privileges, which *Nature*, *Religion*, and the *Laws of the Land*, have beſtow'd upon the Meaneſt of our People. I readily wave all other Pretenſions, and come into the *Levelling* and *Anarchical Principles*, to let the Faction ſee, that even upon this Foot, the *M——y* have been uſed barbarouſly and inhumanly, treated with outragious Malice and Injuſtice; and purſued with ſuch repeated Indignities and Affronts, which tho' their Goodneſs may eaſily incline them to forgive, and to pity the Authors and Abettors of them; yet all Mankind beſides ought to ſtand up and reſent the Diſhonour thereby done to their *Species*, and the laſting Scandal and Reproach brought upon human Nature in general, by ſuch vile and abominable Proceedings.

Inſtead of Confuting that extraordinary Maxim, upon which the preſent Conduct of the *Whigs* is viſibly Founded, *viz. That it is for the Publick Intereſt, and the undoubted Right, Privilege, and Duty of every good Subject, to Aſperſe and Calumniate his Superiors*; I ſhall only advance an old obſolete *Principle*, that ſeems to have loſt all its Force and Influence in the World; hoping however, that it may be reviv'd in ſome tolerable Degree, and have ſome little Reſpect paid to it, on account of its being pretty clear and obvious, and not liable to many Queſtions and Scruples. The Principle is in ſhort this; *Do unto others, as you would they ſhould do unto you.* Upon this *Law*, which is, I think, a *Fundamental One*, and tho' little minded, yet in no great danger of a *Repeal*; upon this ſingle diminutive *Aphoriſm* will I form an Apology for the *Preſent M——y*, which ſhall retort the black Colours upon their Accuſers; and by that means keep them as they are, in an utter Incapacity of Bluſhing, or of being put out of Countenance.

The Perſons I intend to Appeal to, and to make Judges in this Controverſy, ſhall be *Gentlemen* of the *City*, Sober and Diſcreet, knowing Good from Evil, Men of Conſcience, perfectly Diſintereſted, lovers of Truth and Honeſty, and acquainted with the real Value of Credit and Reputation; ſuch Men, in ſhort, who are fit to ſerve upon *Juries*, and frequently engaged in that Service. I am not going to ſtate the *Caſe*, by ſuppoſing theſe *Gentlemen* were to change their Condition for a time, and to be promoted to the firſt *Honours* and *Poſts* in the *Government*; and then asking them, Whether they would be Content to be uſed in the manner their Predeceſſors have been? Neither am I about to enquire, What Notion or Idea they have of a *M——r of State*, as Things now ſtand? And what Proportion it bears to the honourable Sentiments they uſually entertain of a *Lord-Mayor*, an *Alderman*, *Sheriff*, *Deputy*, *Common-Council-Man*, or *Conſtable*? I am Confident they would not readily come into ſuch a Bargain, nor propoſe to themſelves any very great Advantages by the Change. But the better to come at a clear Deciſion of this Point, let them remain as they are; and let their *Governors* (emphatically ſo call'd) be ſuppoſed for a time to be upon a Level with them, and to have their Cauſe come before them, as *Neighbours*, *Freemen*, and *Fellow-Citizens*. I make no doubt, but they would do for Them as for Themſelves: And then the Queſtion would be, How the *Iſſue* would Turn? And, For whom they would bring in their *Verdict*?

The *Charge* is for Crimes of a very high Nature; no leſs than *A Deſign to bring in Popery and the Pretender*. And the Witneſſes are *St—e*, *To——d*, *R——th*, *D——n*, with other *Pamphleteers* and *Mouths* of the *Party*: Who, for the greater Solemnity of the Buſineſs, ſhall be allow'd to *Swear* upon their *Honour* and *Reputation*. The *Proofs* and *Overt-Acts* are many and very plain; which ought to be Sum'd-up, well Weigh'd, and Conſider'd. *St——e* ſhall depoſe; *That* Dunkirk

kirk *is not yet Demoliſh'd: That* there was firſt a *Ceſſation of Arms*, and then a *Peace* with *France:* That ſeveral *Peers* have been created: That he does not like the *Mien* and *Air* of ſome People: That there is a whole *Quiver full of Pretenders:* And, That the *Catalonians* are not to be mention'd *without a Tear. D——n* and *R——ch* ſhall pronounce with an audible Voice, the Words, *Rogue! Raſcal! Trickſter! Traitor! Papiſt! Perkinite!* and Great Man! at leaſt Five hundred times a-piece: Shall declare to the Court at large, what *Plots* and *Maſſacres* there have been in the World: How King *John* and Pope *Joan*, Cardinal *Mazarine*, and the Duke of *Ava* behav'd themſelves: That then *Jeſuits* in *Scotland*, *Bulls* in *Ireland*, and *Troops* in the *Netherlands:* And that whenever *Popery* is *Reſtor'd*, we are all *Ruin'd* and *Undone.* Laſtly, *Te——d* ſhall diſcloſe the whole *Art of Reſtoring*; plainly ſetting forth, That the *Suc——n* is exactly like a *Commonweal'h*, the *Pre——r* like King *C——* the Second, and General *M—k* the very ſame Perſon with Sir *Ro—r:* Whence it muſt inevitably follow, that becauſe *M—k Swore* and *Proteſted*, ſent *Meſſages*, wrote *Letters*, made *Speeches*, and *did* and *ſaid* every thing in behalf of the *Rump* and *Good Old Cauſe*; and yet brought in the *King* notwithſtanding: Therefore let Sir *R—r Say*, and *Do*, and *Swear* what he pleaſes, ſtill he muſt mean the *Pretender*, and it is *Impoſſible* he can mean any thing elſe. From all which clear *Evidence* and *Overt-Acts* it plainly appears, that *Certain Men now in Power* are *Guilty* of a *Deſign* to bring in *Popery* and the *Pretender*, and to Overthrow the *Government.*

Now to carry on the *Parallel*, let us imagine, as I propos'd, that theſe *Great Perſons* were only *private Citizens*, and to be *Try'd* for *Conſpiring the Cutting of their own Throats, or the making themſelves Bankrupts, in order to Cheat their Creditors*; which are Crimes, that bear a ſingular Proportion to the former. Then call the very ſame *ſubſtantial Witneſſes*, and let them produce their *Facts* and *Proofs*, in exact Conformity and Reſemblance to what was above delivered; *viz. That* theſe wicked Citizens have not yet pull'd down the *Houſe*, that was given them, as a *Security* for the Performance of *Certain Articles: That* they agreed to a *Reference*, and have ſince put an End to a *Law-Suit*, with *one* of their *Dealers: That ſeveral* of their *Neighbours* have lately been made *Free:* That their *Aſpect* and *Features* have been diſlik'd by *one* or *two* in the *Pariſh: That* there are *many*, who would lay *Claim* to their *Eſtates*, if they had not cut off the *Entail: That* they once Traded with ſome *Foreigners*, who have ſince brought *Themſelves* into very odd Circumſtances: *That* they have been call'd *Names* by their *Enemies:* That there has been a great deal of *Knavery* and *Treachery* in the World: *That Jack Straw*, *Wat Tyler*, and *Robin Hood*, were very unlucky Fellows: *That* there are *Attorneys* in the *Fleet*, *Protections* to be had for Money, and *Soldiers* Quarter'd at *Hounſlow: That* whenever *Spunges* are introduced, *Stocks* will fall: And laſtly, *That* there never was an *Arch Subtle Fellow*, who *ſaid one Thing*, and *did Another*, but he was exactly like theſe very *Criminals*, in his *Life*, *Converſation*, and all other *Circumſtances.* From all which Evidence it plainly appears, that the Perſons complain'd of, are *guilty of a horrid Deſign to Cut their own Throats*; *or at leaſt to commit Bankruptcy, and Ruin all their Creditors.*

I leave every *Common Reader* to judge of the *Juſtice* and *Fitneſs* of this *Parallel*, in all its minuteſt Particulars: And now, what can be more Abſurd, Foolish, and Ridiculous? How can ſuch groſs Stuff go down with Reaſonable Creatures? Is this call'd, *Accuſing*, *Proving*, and *giving Evidence?* Would Men of common Senſe and modern Honeſty, bear to hear ſuch egregious Trifles advanc'd againſt a *Neighbour* or a *Fellow-Citizen*, by a Crew of *Itinerant Bedlamites* and *Lunaticks?* Will an eternal Clack, a fluency of Nonſenſe, or a grave Appearance, attone for ſuch vile miſpending of Time, and Mockery of judicial Proceedings? Would any ſober *Citizen* endure to leave his *Shop*, or be call'd from behind his *Counter*, to anſwer ſuch a Rhapſody of Inconſiſtencies? And yet as low and groveling as this is, *Faction* has ſcarce any thing elſe to ſay for her Self. Allowing for the difference of Expreſſion, and proportion of Ideas, this is, *mutatis mutandis*, the very Marrow and Subſtance of all thoſe *Fears* and *Apprehenſions*, thoſe *Calumnies* and *Reflections*, and that prodigious Glut of *Pamphlets* and *Politicks*, with which a teaſing noiſy *Party* and ſurfeiting *Preſs* have lately encumber'd us. With this we are Dun'd, Deafen'd, and Alarm'd; by Wretches, void of all Learning, Senſe, and Honeſty: And becauſe *Knaves* and *Fools* are ſtill numerous, therefore they think, the *Beſt* and *Greateſt Men amongſt us*, are not entirely out of their Power. Theſe *Incendiaries* are, by their Profeſſion, harden'd againſt all Conviction; will Sin faſter than they can be Cenſur'd, and inſtead of *dabbling* in Politicks, break down the *Banks*, and let in Slime and Mud upon us, and all the Dregs and Overflowings of Nonſenſe and Falſhood. What ſhocking *Profaneneſs* is it to hear theſe Men *Whine* about *Liberty* and *Publick Good*, and own they are *Smitten* by a *Political Cupid*, and paſſionately in *Love* with their *Country?* A Paſſion, of which they can give no other Proofs, but *loſing their Wits*, *telling Lyes*, and *talking Inconſiſtently.* I know not how far theſe *Heroes in Sedition* intend to carry the miſchievous Frolick: At preſent, their Bungling is too Groſs to recommend them to any one Sett of Able and Learned *Conſpirators:* Tho' if their *Bigotry* does not cool, nor their *Malice* abate in time, it is poſſible they may be Seduc'd by one another into plain vulgar *Treaſon*, without the Glory and Reputation of a *PLOT.*

ADVERTISEMENT.

Juſt Publiſhed by Authority,

AN exact Plan of the Town, Citadel and Harbour of Dunkirk, with the ſeveral Forts, &c. thereunto belonging, as they were in the Year 1712. By Colonel John Armſtrong. Curiouſly Engraven on Copper, and Printed on a large Sheet of Imperial Paper. Price 1s. 6d. Sold by John Morphew near Stationer's Hall, and Tho. Bowles next to the Chapter-Houſe in St. Paul's Church Yard.

AT the Golden Sugar-Loaf, right againſt the Horſe at Charing-Croſs, up one pair of Stairs, are all Sorts of Morning Gowns ſold for Men and Women of Brocades, rich flower'd Damask Sattins, and Callicoes; being the Goods of People that have fail'd, and can be affo'ded a great Pennyworth. N. B. Any Gentlemen or Ladies may have the right Silk Wadding for Interlinings, being the ſofteſt, warmeſt, and lighteſt Thing that ever was known to the World, done after the Indian Manner, and as cheap as Colcheſter Bays; with the neweſt Sorts of Quilted and Canvis Petticoats and Waſtecoats for Ladies.

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